

**City of Fairfield
Minutes
Regular Meeting of City Council
December 11, 2023**

Council-Manager Briefing

A. 6:00 PM - Energy Aggregation & Safety Study for Ross Road and Woodridge Boulevard

Mayor Rhodus called the briefing to order at 6:00 PM. Councilmembers present: Leslie Besl, Dale Paullus, Terry Senger, Adam Kraft, Tim Meyers, Matt Davidson and Gwen Brill.

Staff members present: Scott Timmer, Steve Wolterman, Laurie Murphy, Alisha Wilson, Ben Mann, Nick Dill, Steve Maynard, Adam Sackenheim, Chris Hacker, Mandi Brock, Carol Mayhall and Tom Lakamp.

See attached slides.

Business Meeting Call to Order

Mayor Rhodus called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember Besl led in prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Councilmembers present included:

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Tim Meyers	Councilmember, At-Large	Present	
Matt Davidson	Councilmember, At-Large	Present	
Gwen Brill	Councilmember, At-Large	Present	
Leslie Besl	Councilmember, 1st Ward	Present	
Dale Paullus	Councilmember, 2nd Ward	Present	
Terry Senger	Councilmember, 3rd Ward	Present	
Adam Kraft	Councilmember, 4th Ward	Present	
Mitch Rhodus	Mayor	Present	

Agenda Modifications

Councilmember Meyers, seconded by Councilmember Davidson, moved to amend the agenda to add an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into the AFSCME collective bargaining agreement and to add an ordinance to establish salaries and hourly rates for certain salaried and hourly employees of the City of Fairfield and to add an ordinance to authorize the number and salaries and hourly rates for certain employees of the Fairfield Municipal Court. Motion carried 7-0.

Executive Session Requests

Councilmember Besl, seconded by Councilmember Paullus, moved for Executive Session to discuss pending or imminent litigation and the status of collective bargaining with public employees regarding their wages, hours and other terms and conditions of their employment. Roll call vote. Motion carried 7-0.

Special Presentations

a. Proclamation to Councilmember Terry Senger

Mayor Rhodus presented Councilmember Senger with a proclamation and Key to the City in recognition of his years of service on City Council. Mayor Rhodus thanked Councilmember Senger for his many years of service to the city. Councilmember Senger thanked Council, staff, employees and residents for their support over the years.

Citizen Comments

Council Reports

Public Hearing(s)

None.

Approval of Minutes

The Regular Meeting Minutes of December 4, 2023 were approved as written and submitted.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to read all New Business by title only.

Development Services

City Manager Scott Timmer - Report

Councilmember Matt Davidson

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Davidson presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Matt Davidson, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Ordinance affirming the designation of the Community Improvement Corporation of Fairfield as the City's agency for development in the City and authorizing grants totaling \$2,250,000 to be made to the Community Improvement Corporation of Fairfield for public purposes, and declaring an emergency.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council suspend the rules requiring a second and third reading of this ordinance and pass as an emergency.

ORDINANCE NO. 169-23. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Matt Davidson, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Dale Paullus, Councilmember, 2nd Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Parks, Recreation & Environment

City Manager Scott Timmer - Report

Councilmember Gwen Brill

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Brill presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Leslie Besl, Councilmember, 1st Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Ordinance to authorize the City Manager to execute the Ohio's Urban Forestry Grant application and agreement and declaring an emergency.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council authorize the preparation of legislation, with rules suspension and emergency provision, authorizing the City Manager to execute an application and agreement for a grant to fund long-term growth and development of local urban and community forestry program in the City of Fairfield.

ORDINANCE NO. 170-23. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Public Utilities

City Manager Scott Timmer - Report

Councilmember Adam Kraft

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Kraft presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Adam Kraft, Councilmember, 4th Ward
SECONDER:	Leslie Besl, Councilmember, 1st Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Ordinance to approve and adopt a plan of operation and governance for natural gas governmental aggregation and declaring an emergency.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council adopt and approve a plan of operation and governance as regards to natural gas governmental aggregation, pursuant to Section 4929.26, Ohio Revised Code

ORDINANCE NO. 117-23. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Adam Kraft, Councilmember, 4th Ward
SECONDER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Kraft presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Adam Kraft, Councilmember, 4th Ward
SECONDER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Ordinance to approve and adopt a plan of operation and governance for electric governmental aggregation and declaring an emergency.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council adopt and approve a plan of operation and governance as regards to electric governmental aggregation, pursuant to Section 4928.20, Ohio Revised Code

ORDINANCE NO. 172-23. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Adam Kraft, Councilmember, 4th Ward
SECONDER:	Matt Davidson, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Finance & Budget

Councilmember Tim Meyers

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Meyers presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Dale Paullus, Councilmember, 2nd Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Ordinance establishing salaries for certain exempt and salaried employees of the City of Fairfield, Ohio, to repeal Ordinance No. 90-23 and all amendments thereto and declaring an emergency.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council approve this Ordinance eliminating the Neighborhood Development Manager position from the Unclassified Pay Plan, suspending the rules and declaring an emergency.

ORDINANCE NO. 173-23. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Meyers presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Adam Kraft, Councilmember, 4th Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 155-22 entitled “An Ordinance to make estimated appropriations for the expenses and other expenditures of the City of Fairfield, Ohio, during a period beginning January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2023.” - Supplemental Appropriations.

Recommendation:

It is necessary for City Council to pass appropriations to reconcile accounts. It is recommended that City Council authorize and direct the preparation of legislation amending the annual operating budget.

ORDINANCE NO. 174-23. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Dale Paullus, Councilmember, 2nd Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Meyers presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 155-22 entitled “An Ordinance to make estimated appropriations for the expenses and other expenditures of the City of Fairfield, Ohio, during a period beginning January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2023.”

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council suspend the rules requiring a second and third reading of this Ordinance and adopt the appropriations listed above.

ORDINANCE NO. 175-23. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Dale Paullus, Councilmember, 2nd Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Meyers presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Ordinance to authorize the City Manager to enter into a collective bargaining agreement with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Council #8, Local 3646 (AFSCME) for wages, hours and terms and conditions of employment for the AFSCME bargaining unit and declaring an emergency.

ORDINANCE NO. 176-23. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Adam Kraft, Councilmember, 4th Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Meyers presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Ordinance to establish salaries and hourly rates for certain salaried and hourly employees of the City of Fairfield, Ohio and to authorize and limit the numbers and types of certain employees, to repeal Ordinance No. 165-23 and all amendments thereto and declaring an emergency.

ORDINANCE NO. 177-23. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Adam Kraft, Councilmember, 4th Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Meyers presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Dale Paullus, Councilmember, 2nd Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Ordinance to establish salaries and hourly rates for certain Municipal Court employees of the City of Fairfield, Ohio and to authorize and limit the numbers and types of certain Municipal Court employees to repeal Ordinance No. 77-23 and all amendments thereto and declaring an emergency.

ORDINANCE NO. 178-23. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Adam Kraft, Councilmember, 4th Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Senger, Kraft

Meeting Schedule

Clerk Wilson read the following meeting schedule:

- A. Monday, December 18 - Oath of Office, 6:00 PM
- B. Monday, January 8 - Council-Manager Briefing, 6:00 PM; Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
- C. Monday, January 22 - Council-Manager Briefing, 6:00 PM; Regular Meeting 7:00 PM

Executive Session of Council (if needed)

16. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Mayor's Approval

Date Approved _____

ENERGY ALLIANCES

**SOUTHWEST OHIO'S
MOST TRUSTED
ENERGY ADVISER**



City of Fairfield
Energy Aggregation - Next Steps

December 11, 2023



Election Results – November 7, 2023

☐ Issue 13 Proposed Ordinance Electric Aggregation City of Fairfield

(VOTE FOR 1)

Precinct Reported: 38 of 38 (100%)

☒ Yes	☒	7,149	62.31%	
☐ No		4,325	37.69%	

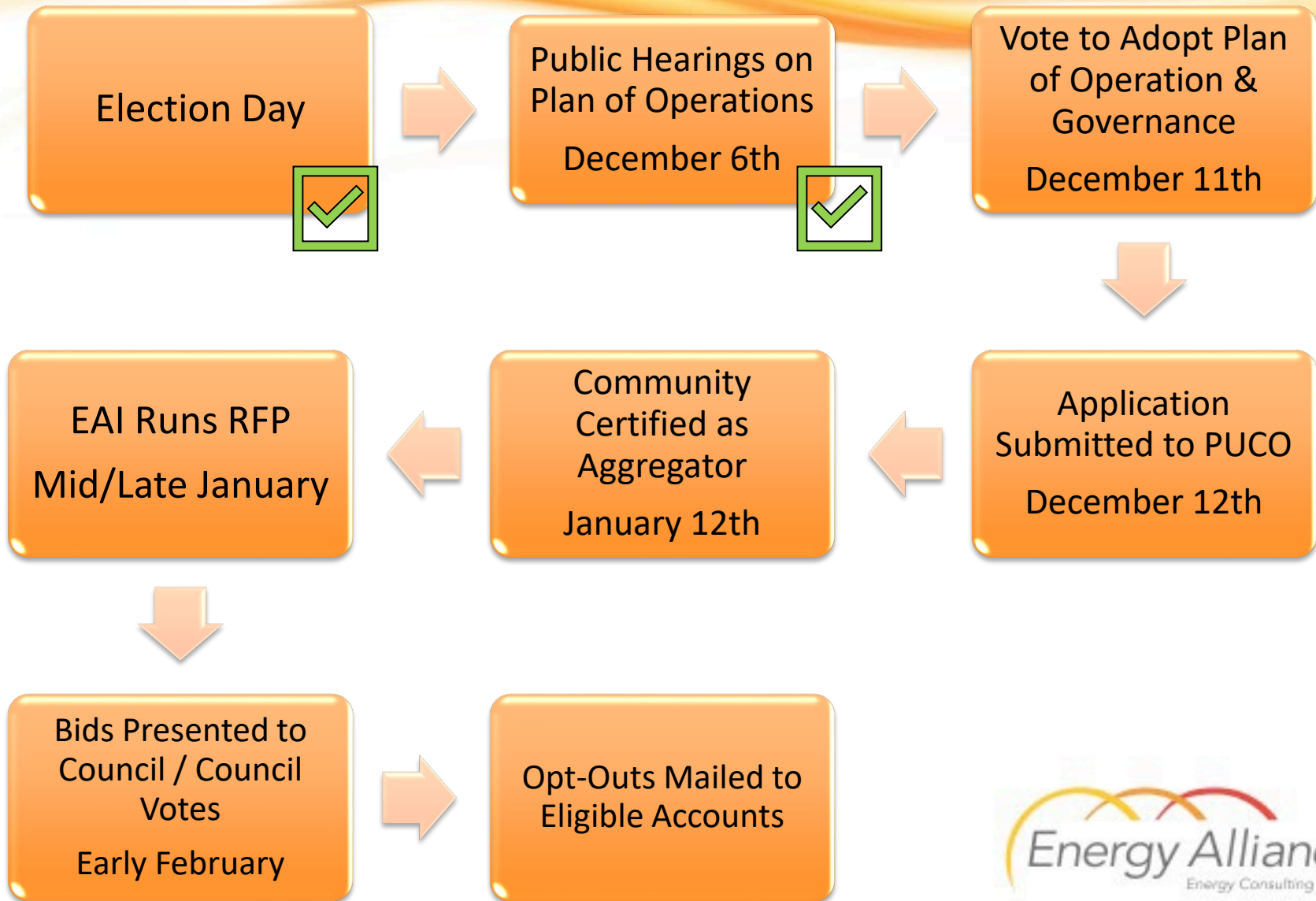
☐ Issue 14 Proposed Ordinance Gas Aggregation City of Fairfield

(VOTE FOR 1)

Precinct Reported: 38 of 38 (100%)

☒ Yes	☒	7,183	63.03%	
☐ No		4,214	36.97%	

Aggregation Process



Plan of Operation & Governance

- Documents outline program details
- Minimum requirements for certification
- Program offers defined during RFP process

Plan of Operation & Governance Summary

- Supplier takes necessary steps to provide generation/supply services
- Eligible customers defined
 - On Duke default service
 - Not on Percentage of Income Plan (PIPP)
 - Non-Mercantile (< 700,000 kwh / 5,000 ccf and as defined by Ohio Code)
 - Inside City limits

Plan of Operations & Governance Summary (cont...)

- Twenty-One (21) Day Opt-Out Window
- Ability to opt-out every 3 years for electric and 2 years for natural gas....confusing?
 - Early aggregation programs had termination fees
 - Irrelevant statement if program has no termination fees and participants can leave at any time
 - Ohio Code retains above language so left in Plan of Operations and Governance

Plan of Operation & Governance Summary (cont...)

- Single bill from Duke
- New participants / Move within City
 - Must opt-in
 - Enrollment not automatic when Duke creates account

Plan of Operation & Governance Suggestions

- Approve to form as PUCO has already approved document with dozens of other communities
- Material changes could delay certification
- Program specifics managed during RFP process

Timeline summary

- Hold two public hearings on the aggregation Plan of Operations and Governance. December 6, 2023 - **COMPLETED**
 - City Council to vote to adopt the Plan of Operations and Governance - December 11, 2023 - **TONIGHT**
- File application with PUCO in which PUCO has 30 days to review the application – **Mid December 2023**
- Energy Alliances (EA) will request pricing from suppliers – **Mid-January 2024**
- Energy Alliances will present pricing to City Council at which time they will vote to enter a contract with chosen supplier – **Early February 2024**
- Opt-Out Materials will be prepared, filed with PUCO (10 day waiting period) and then mailed to eligible accounts for a 21 day opt-out period – **Late February 2024**
- Chosen supplier will enroll any account that did not respond to the opt-out materials after the 21 day opt-out period ends – **March 2024**
- Participants to see the supplier rate on Duke Energy bills roughly two months after the 21 day opt-out period closes – **MAY 2024**



Ross – Woodridge Intersection Safety Study

Council – Manager Briefing
December 11, 2023

Background



1980 Image



Background



2005 Image



Background



2023 Image



Background



2023

Two groups brought safety concerns to Council:

- Speed and roadway departures in the curve
- Frequency/severity of crashes in the intersection



Background



2005-2007 Rank	Road	Intersecting Street	2005 Crashes	2006 Crashes	2007 Crashes	3-year Total
1	Ross Road	Wooridge Boulevard	4	4	7	15
2	Dixie Highway/Rt 4	Winton Road	7	5	2	14
3	Nilles Road	Bibury Road	7	2	4	13
4	Seward Road	Fairfield Business Center Drive/Sosna	6	5	2	13
5	Nilles Road	Crystal Drive	4	1	4	9

Background



2014 Before

2014 After



Recent Safety Statistics



2020-2022 Ross Road & Woodridge Boulevard

Crash Summary Sheet

Crashes Per Year	8.67	Percent Injury	30.8%	EPDO	2.55
------------------	------	----------------	-------	------	------

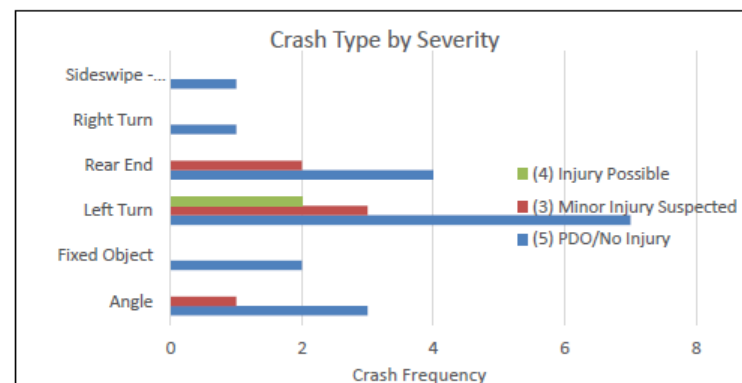
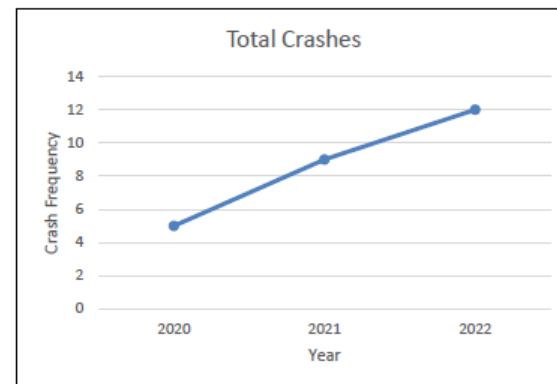
Year	Total Crashes	Fatalities	Serious Injuries
2020	5	0	0
2021	9	0	0
2022	12	0	0
Grand Total	26	0	0

Total Crashes Crash Type	Injury Level (3) Minor Injury	(4) Injury Possi	(5) PDO/No Inj	Grand Total
Left Turn	3	2	7	12
Rear End	2	0	4	6
Angle	1	0	3	4
Fixed Object	0	0	2	2
Sideswipe - Passing	0	0	1	1
Right Turn	0	0	1	1
Grand Total	6	2	18	26

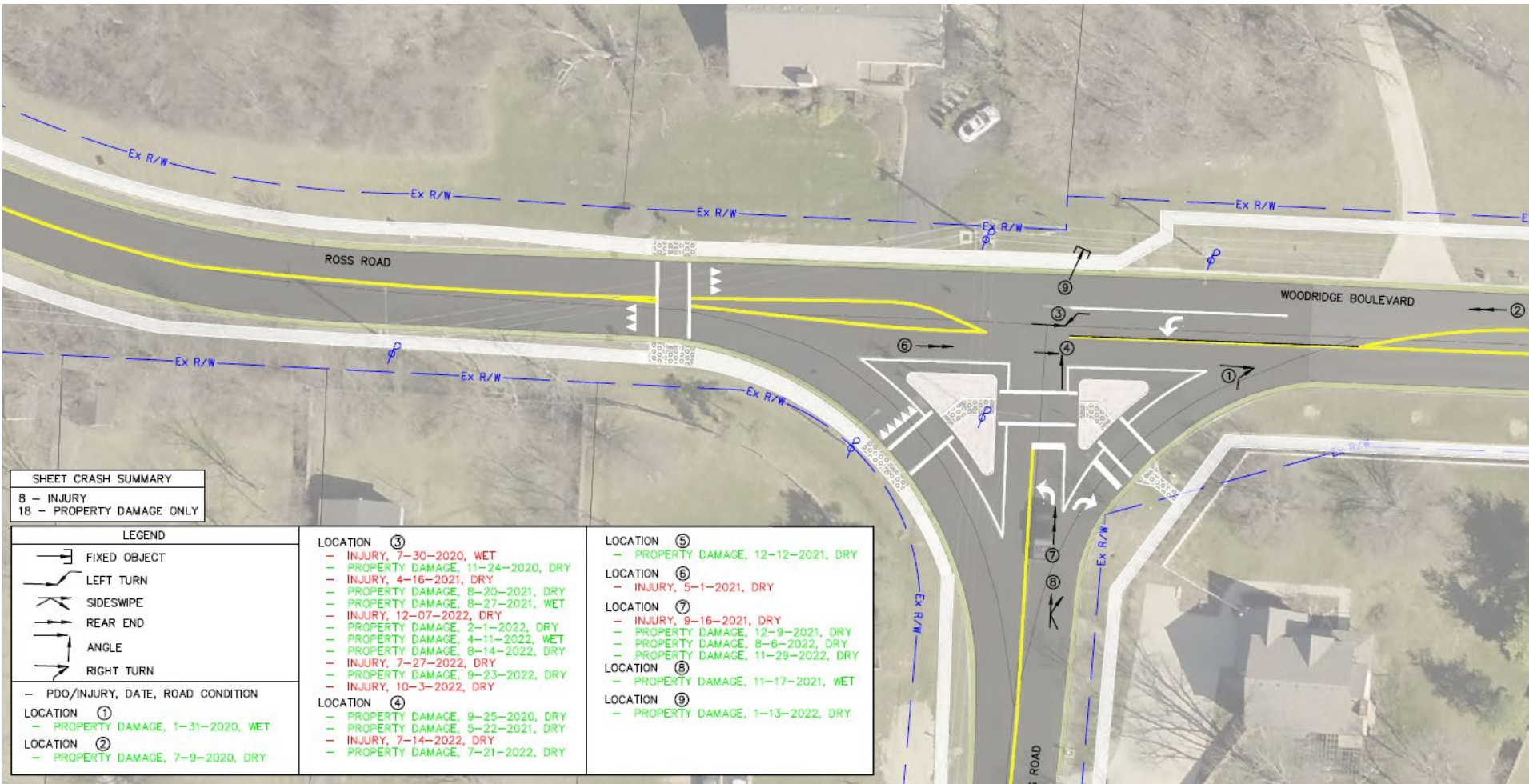
Road Condition	Total Crashes	Fatalities	Serious Injuries
Dry	21	0	0
Wet	5	0	0
Grand Total	26	0	0

Month	Total Crashes
January	2
February	1
April	2
May	2
July	5
August	4
September	3
October	1
November	3
December	3
Grand Total	26

Hour of Day	Total Crashes
0	2
7	1
8	2
10	2
12	2
13	2
14	3
16	1
17	1
18	3
19	3
21	3
23	1
Grand Total	26



Recent Safety Statistics



Speed



Speed Limit: 25mph

Ross Curve

- Data collected by PW
 - Southbound Avg. Speed: 24mph
 - Westbound Avg. Speed: 27mph
 - 85th Percentile Speed (both directions): 40mph
- Curve designed for 35mph

Ross-Woodridge Intersection

- Data collected by Choice One Engineering
 - Avg. Speed: 28mph
 - 85th Percentile Speed: 34mph

Proposed Alternatives



Alternative 1: Signage Upgrades

Alternative 2: Tee Intersection with One-Way Stop

Alternative 2A: Tee Intersection with All-Way Stop

Alternative 3: Traffic Signal

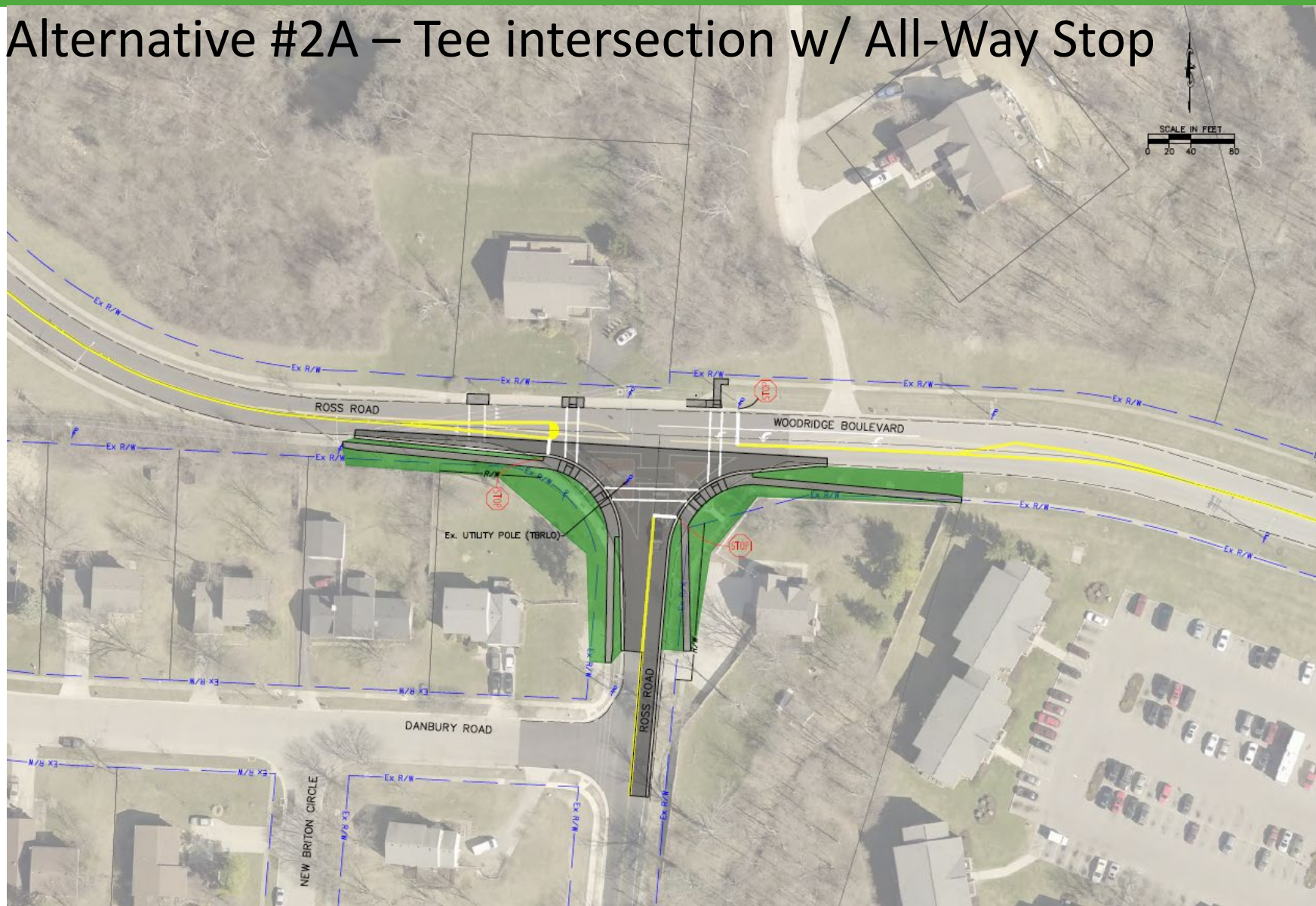
Alternative 4: Mini-Roundabout

Alternative 5: Full-Size Roundabout

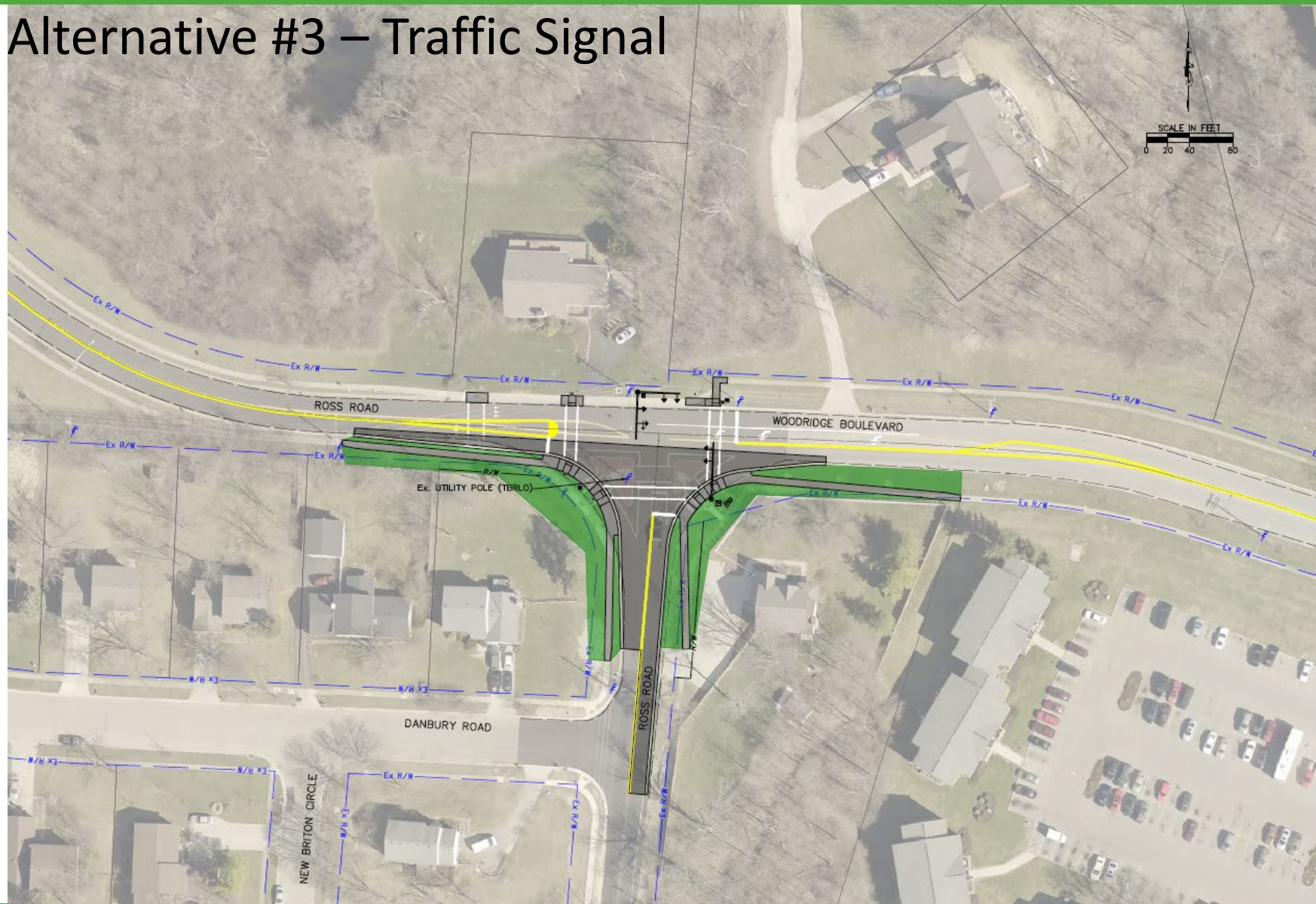
Alternative #2 – Tee Intersection w/ One-Way Stop



Alternative #2A – Tee intersection w/ All-Way Stop



Alternative #3 – Traffic Signal





Alternative Analysis



Figure 6: Alternative Analysis

Criteria	Do Nothing	Alternate 1	Alternate 2	Alternate 2A	Alternate 3	Alternate 4	Alternate 5
Update Pedestrian Facilities to ADA Standards	Does Not Improve	Does Not Improve	Meets Requirements	Meets Requirements	Meets Requirements	Meets Requirements	Meets Requirements
Connectivity & Pedestrian Safety	Does Not Improve	Does Not Improve	Moderate Improvements	Moderate Improvements	Most Improvements	Most Improvements	Most Improvements
Intersection Safety	Does Not Improve	Does Not Improve	Moderate Improvements	Moderate Improvements	Moderate Improvements	Most Improvements	Most Improvements
Right-of-Way Impact	No Impacts	No Impacts	Low Impact	Low Impact	Medium Impacts	Medium Impacts	High Impact
Capacity Impacts	Does Not Improve	Does Not Improve	Some Improvements	Does Not Improve	Moderate Improvements	Most Improvements	Most Improvements
Project Cost	No Cost	Low Cost	Some Cost	Some Cost	Medium Cost	Medium Cost	High Cost

Alternate 1: Signage upgrades	\$20,000
Alternate 2: One-way stop T intersection	\$788,892
Alternate 2A: Multi-way stop T intersection	\$697,398
Alternate 3: Traffic Signal	\$1,134,113
Alternate 4: Mini-roundabout	\$1,248,830

Study Recommendation



Recommendations

Based on the analysis results of the existing and future conditions, cost estimates, and benefits to the travelling public, COEC recommends that Alternate 4, a mini-roundabout, be considered by the City for implementation at this intersection. Roundabouts are a proven safety countermeasure to reduce left turn and angle crashes which this study intersection currently experiences. Furthermore, a roundabout has the biggest impact to intersection capacity when compared to a stop controlled or signalized intersection which will allow it to handle future growth in the area.

Roundabout Safety



Butler County Single-Lane Modern Roundabouts
Before/After Statistics
 (Data compiled thru 2022)

OVERALL TOTALS								
20 Single-Lane Roundabouts								
	ADT	Dates	Years	All Crashes	Crash/year	Injury	Inj/year	Serious Injury/Fatal
Before Data		2003-2021	99.92	535	5.4	170	1.7	19
After Data		2008-2022	130.56	218	1.7	33	0.3	1
% Reduction					69%		85%	95%
Comments:								

20 Roundabouts

8.6 → 2.7

2.7 → 0.4

0

Public Discussion



- Meeting held November 16
- 9 invited – most affected properties
- Presented safety study and the proposed alternatives
- Resident feedback

